

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior listings and versions of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-21 (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A method of ~~diagnosing a renal disease or a disease or condition causing renal complications~~ screening kidney function for the ability to fragment protein in a patient comprising:

- (a) generating at least one fragmentation profile for at least one protein from a urine sample obtained from ~~a subject~~ the patient; and
- (b) comparing said at least one fragmentation profile with a reference fragmentation profile for said at least one protein of a normal individual ~~to determine the presence of disease~~; and
- (c) correlating a decrease in fragmentation of the at least one protein with decreased kidney function.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~22 wherein a decrease in fragmentation of the at least one protein is correlated to the presence of a disease or condition causing said decrease in fragmentation~~the disease or condition causing renal complications is bacterial infection, congenital defect, stones, allergy, or diabetes.~~

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~22~~25, wherein the disease is a kidney disease.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~22, wherein the ~~inhibition~~ decrease in fragmentation is a result of lysosomal dysfunction.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one fragmentation profile and reference fragmentation profile are ~~is~~ determined in terms of fragment size and sequence.

30. (Canceled).

31. (Previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the fragmentation profile is generated and/or compared to a reference fragmentation profile using chromatography, electrophoresis, sedimentation, or mass spectroscopy; or combinations thereof.

32. (Currently amended): The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one protein ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of albumin, globulin, (α -globulin, (α_1 -globulin, α_2 -globulin), β -globulin γ -globulin), euglobulin, pseudoglobulin I and II, fibrinogen, α_1 acid glycoprotein, (orosomucoid), α_1 glycoprotein, α_1 lipoprotein, ceruloplasmin, α_2 19S glycoprotein, β_1 transferrin, β_1 lipoprotein, immunoglobulins A, E, G, and M, lactate dehydrogenase, glucose oxidase, myoglobin, lysozyme, protein hormone, growth hormone, insulin, or parathyroid hormone.

33. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the disease or condition causing renal complications is bacterial infection, congenital defect, stones, allergy, or diabetes.

34. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one protein is albumin.

35. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one protein is IgG.

36. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the patient has diabetes mellitus and the at least one protein is albumin.

37. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the at least one fragmentation profile and the reference protein profile are generated with High Performance Liquid Chromatography.

38. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the patient has diabetes and exhibits normoalbuminuria and the at least one protein is albumin.